

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID ELTN BC
SUBJ: BOTZAM ROAD

REF: (A) GABORONE 1712, (B) GABORONE 1698

1. SUMMARY: IN DISCUSSIONS IN LESOTHO JUNE 16 AND HERE JUNE 22, EEC DELEGATE DAVID ANDERSON REVIEWED STATUS OF EEC EFFORTS TO ASSURE \$6 MILLION (ESTIMATED) NECESSARY TO COMPLETE PAVING OF BOTZAM ROAD. ANDERSON IS MAKING FAREWELL VISITS PRIOR TO LEAVING JULY 14 TO BECOME DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF COMMONWALTH SECRETARIAT IN LONDON. HE EXPECTS A SUCCESSOR TO ARRIVE BUT NOT BEFORE LATE SUMMER IN VIEW OF CONCURRENCE REQUIRED FROM THREE BLS GOVERNMENTS. END SUMMARY

2. ANDERSON'S REVIEW OF EC EFFORTS TO FUND BOTZAM PAVING SHORTFALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS:

A) EC OFFICIAL, CONTRARY TO ANDERSON'S RECOMMENDATION, RAISED THE SUBJECT WITH AID/W DURING WASHINGTON VISIT WITH ONLY RESULT A PROMISE TO "KEEP IN TOUCH". (ANDERSON STRONGLY
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OPPOSES PURSUING USAID FUNDS BECAUSE OF BUREAUCRATIC COMPLICATIONS OF RECONCILING PROCEDURAL SYSTEMS);

B) SAME EC OFFICIAL APPROACHED IBRD IN WASHINGTON WITHOUT APPARENT RESULTS;

C) EC PLANS APPROACH TO ARAB COUNTRIES, WHICH ANDERSON

BELIEVES HAS NO CHANCE OF SUCCESS.

3. ANDERSON CONCLUDES THAT THREE POSSIBILITIES REMAIN:

A) THE SECOND EC REGIONAL PROJECTS BUDGET;

B) SECOND LOME CONVENTION FUND (DUE TO BE AVAILABLE IN MARCH 1980);

C) UK BILATERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO BOTSWANA. THE LATTER POSSIBILITY EMERGED IN ANDERSON'S FAREWELL CALL ON UK HIGH COMMISSIONER TURNER HERE. UK HAS \$30 MILLION AVAILABLE OVER THREE-YEAR PERIOD FOR BILATERAL PROJECTS. UK CONTINUES TO HAVE DIFFICULTY IDENTIFYING GOOD PROJECTS, ACCORDING TO ANDERSON, AND TURNER HAS PROMISED TO SOUND OUT LONDON ON POSSIBILITIES OF USING BILATERAL ASSISTANCE FOR BOTSWANA ROAD NEEDS.

4. COMMENT: ANDERSON IS CONFIDENT THAT EEC WILL FIND NECESSARY FUNDS. THE ONLY QUESTION IS TIMING WHICH, OF COURSE, IS OUR PRINCIPAL CONCERN. WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW UP DISCREETLY WITH UK HERE IN EFFORT TO CRYSTALLIZE UK COMMITMENT ASAP.
NORLAND

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